

Message Text

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 IGA-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01 MC-02 EB-07

SS-15 AID-05 COME-00 L-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /050 W

----- 001627

R 020933Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2883

INFO CINCPAC

SECDEF

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 5754

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, RP

SUBJECT: M-16 RIFLE PLANT - FMS CREDITS IN FY '75

SECDEF ATTN: ASD:ISA(SA)/DSAA/TS

REF: (A) SECDEF 171616Z; (B) CINCPAC 300355Z

1. REFTELS AND EARLIER TRAFFIC HAVE ANNOUNCED TO US WITHOUT PREAMBLE OR CONSULTATION ELIMINATION OF FMS DIRECT CREDITS TO THE PHILIPPINES IN FY 1975. ACTION REFLECTS NO REPEAT NO AWARENESS WHATSOEVER OF THE CONTINUING ENCOURAGEMENT WE HAD BEEN GIVEN BY WASHINGTON AGENCIES TO PROMOTE FMS CREDITS AS A LONG-TERM CUSHION AGAINST RISING NEED FOR U.S. EQUIPMENT AND FALLING MAP BUDGETS. NOR DOES THE ANNOUNCED LEVEL TAKE ANY NOTE OF PLANNING FIGURE IN THE \$10-12 MILLION RANGE WIDELY CONSIDERED REASONABLE FO THIS COUNTRY'S SITUATION.

2. WE ARE TROUBLED AS INDEED ARE THE FILIPINOS BY THE ANNOUNCEMENT AFTER FY1975 IS PRACTICALLY GONE REF A THAT EFFECTIVELY THERE WILL BE FOR PRACTICAL PURPOSES NO REPEAT NO FMS DIRECT CREDITS FOR THE PHILIPPINES IN 1975. SUCH A LATE ANNOUNCEMENT CAN ONLY SUGGEST TO FILIPINOS THE MOST OFFHAND AND CAVALIER TREATMENT OF OUR AGREEMENT WITH THEM ON THE M-16.

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3. WE BELIEVE THAT IN VIEW OF THE PRESENT STATE OF
BASE AND RELATED MATTERS IN PHILIPPINE THINKING, IN VIEW OF
THE IMPORTANCE THE M-16 PROJECT HAS BEEN ASSIGNED IN
PHILIPPINE SELF-RELIANCE EFFORTS OF CONSIDERABLE MUTUAL
INTEREST, WE OWE THE FILIPINOS BETTER THAN A LATE HOUR
TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT CHOICE, BACKED UP BY MERE
PROTESTATIONS OF WORLDWIDE SCARCITY IN FMS DIRECT CREDITS.

4. AT THE LEAST, IF WE CANNOT, FOR BETTER REASONS THAN
SO FAR HAVE BEEN SHARED WITH, GIVE THEM THE \$7 MILLION
DIRECT CREDIT THIS YEAR, WE SHOULD WORK OUR ARRANGEMENTS
TO RPOVIDE THE FULL FMS DIRECT CREDIT REQUIREMENT OUT OF
FY '76 FUNDS.

5. EMBASSY OUWLD APPRECIATE FULLEST APPRAISAL THIS
PROBLEM DEPARTMENT CAN PROVIDE, AND URGES IMMEDIATE
ACTION TO PROVIDE DIRECT CREDITS TO MEET NEEDS OF
THIS PROJECT.
SULLIVAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: RowellE0
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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